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## The Bison, November 2, 2012

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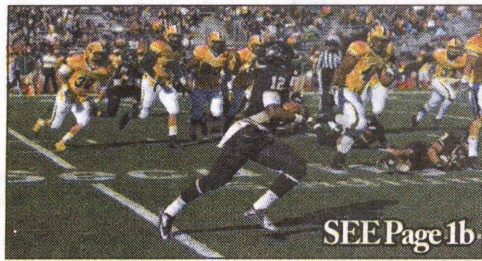




November 2, 2012  
Vol. 88 No. 7

# THE BISON

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# McLarty to be next president

by HARDING PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dr. Bruce McLarty, 55, vice president for spiritual life at Harding University, has been named to succeed Harding University President David B. Burks when Burks retires from the position in June.

The announcement of McLarty's selection was made yesterday by Dr. John O. Simmons, chairman of the school's board of trustees. Simmons also served as chairman of the six-member Presidential Succession Process Committee, which created and executed the plan allowing the entire board to review all applications from candidates for the position.

Harding's board met in its regular semi-annual meetings on Oct. 26-27 and made the decision to name McLarty to the post. The decision comes one year after Burks announced his intention to retire from the presidency at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Burks will become chancellor of the university in June.

Commenting on the McLarty's selection, Simmons said, "We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Bruce McLarty will be the next president of Harding University. The Board of Trustees had the privilege of working with

an outstanding pool of applicants for what I consider to be one of the best jobs in the world. Harding's president gets to work with our faculty, staff and wonderful students who continue to choose to come to Harding for their education, spiritual growth and maturation. Dr. McLarty is a leader, not in the mold of a typical CEO or academician, but he is a servant leader with a very bright mind, a keen insight into people and the ability to communicate effectively. He brings energy and a clear vision of the mission of Harding to the table, and he will be an effective leader as our fifth president ... He is the right man for this time."

Burks said he is very confident in McLarty and thinks he will be a great asset to Harding.

"He has been a valuable member of my administrative team for the past seven years," Burks said. "He has a valuable background as a pulpit minister, teacher, dean and vice president for spiritual life. This will be great benefit to him as he assumes this new role. I very much look forward to working with Dr. McLarty for the next seven months as he prepares to assume this position in June. I believe he is a man of deep spiritual commitment and possesses impeccable integrity."

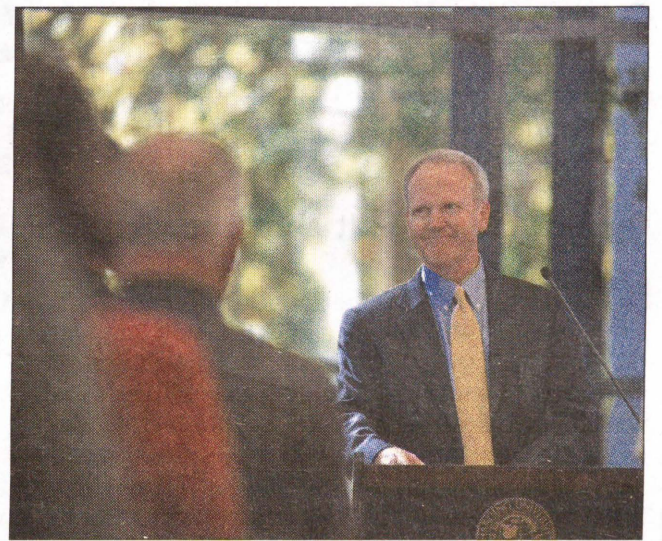


photo by ASHEL PARSONS | Student Publications  
Dr. Bruce McLarty smiles at an applauding audience during a press conference on Thursday. McLarty will succeed Dr. Burks as university president.

## Club week 2012 Impact of the Arkansas Hazing Law on Harding's club week history, activities

by LEXI STUTZMAN  
news editor

Social club induction activities are part of a long-standing tradition at Harding. For decades, social clubs have welcomed new classes of members with a week-long series of activities meant to bond new inductees. This year was no exception as close to 800 new club members and 1,300 old members participated in club week activities.

For as long as the tradition of "pledging" has existed, so have concerns about hazing and the future of induction activities on college campuses around the country. This year, "Rush" activities

at Oklahoma Christian University were limited to a 24-hour period according to president of Chi Lambda Phi, senior Caleb Smith, after incidents in the past few years showed negative impacts on new members.

Vice president and dean of students David Collins said Harding social clubs serve a distinctly Christian purpose and function under the authority of the university and the guidelines stated in the Student Handbook and the Social Club Handbook.

"Club members are responsible for reading, understanding and abiding by these expectations," Collins said. "This is acknowledged by signing the Anti-Hazing Agree-

ment. If a member or members violate university policies, consequences range from warnings up to disbandment of the club or expulsion from the university for the individual. Students who violate state hazing laws can face legal consequences."

Over the years, several social clubs have been disbanded for failure to follow the university code of conduct. In 1981 the men's social club, the Mohicans, was disbanded not long after then freshman Lynn Bartley O'Neal III had a five-inch "M" burned into his skin by silver nitrate during a pledge week initiation. O'Neal sued the university and two Mohican members for \$25,000 and

medical expenses, according to Bison archives.

Since then, club induction activities have seen many renovations focused around the Arkansas Hazing Law. Harding first began attempts to enforce the Arkansas Hazing Law, according to Bison archives, in 1989 when the administration scheduled a meeting between the club officers and the university's attorney to discuss the Arkansas Hazing Law. One club president at the time said it was Harding's way of passing on the responsibility to students.

Assistant dean of students Kara Abston said while the university helps guide the clubs and inform students of the law, responsibility ultimately falls on the student to understand and follow the policies. Harding said the policies must be strictly followed to protect the students and the university as well.

"The hazing law is a little unique," Abston said. "Because if you witnessed a crime, by law you would not have to get involved or report it. Under the hazing law, if you don't report it you may face legal consequences. So if you're witnessing hazing and not doing something about it, then you can be liable as well."

In 2010 a lawsuit against the University of Arkansas demonstrated that the same rule applies to universities. The suit, filed by University of Arkansas sophomore Nicholas Brown, alleged that university officials, including the director of Greek life and dean of students, were aware of hazing issues within the fraternity Phi Delta Theta, but failed to enforce appropriate sanctions. According to the University of Arkansas' student newspaper,

the suit claimed that the university placed greater value on Phi Delta Theta alumni donations and revenue than enforcing the policies of the university and Arkansas laws.

In fall of 2011, stricter regulations were placed on Harding social clubs to prevent hazing. The old traditions of having inductees wear unusual clothes, stage line-ups, write essays and carry around designated items were outlawed under Harding's anti-hazing policy.

Many club officers said that while they understand the purpose of Harding's regulations, the broadness of what 'could' be considered hazing under the policy has made it difficult to get activities for club week approved and has limited what clubs can do.

"It's not that any of things we were doing before were violating the hazing laws," said vice president of Iota Chi senior Jill Holt. "It's that the Harding policy put stricter limits on things that could be considered hazing to prevent any possible issue. Like standing in a line, it just helps with organization, getting information passed quicker and reducing confusion, but under the policy we can't do that."

In addition to the increased regulation in 2011, the title for the week was changed to one that better communicated the week's true goal, according to Collins.

"The term 'Induction Week' was changed to 'Club Week' in an effort to better communicate the intended purpose of the week's activities — to celebrate new membership and foster relationships among all club members," Collins said.



photo by ASHEL PARSONS | Student Publications  
Pi Theta Phi pledges show their club pride as they yell out during All-Club Devotional on Tuesday night. Club week activities started on Sunday night and end tonight.



## Romney favored in HU campus voter poll

Need more guidance on who to vote for? Check out the Link to see where the candidates stand on the economy, immigration, gay rights and more.

by STEVEN BREEZEEL  
associate prof. political science

Harding students demonstrated overwhelming support for Mitt Romney in an on-campus election poll recently completed by students in the political science department.

Among the 763 likely voters surveyed, Mitt Romney led President Obama 79.8 percent to 12.1 percent. In contrast to national trends, the Republican nominee drew greater support from Harding women than from men. Females favored Romney over President Obama by a

margin of 83 percent to 10.5 percent, while Romney's lead among male students was 75.6 percent to 14.1 percent.

The student body at Harding is clearly more conservative and Republican than the nation as a whole, but the level of support enjoyed by Mitt Romney at Harding is generally consistent with trends observed among Evangelical Christians in the general electorate.

In a Pew Research poll published on Oct. 8, individuals classified as Evangelical Christians also favored Romney by a large margin (76 percent to 20 percent).

The results of this year's poll are similar to those from a previous study conducted among Harding students during the 2008 presidential campaign. That poll also indicated widespread support for the Republican nominee, with John McCain favored by a margin of 73.9 percent to 17.3 percent. Both surveys produced very large majorities for the Republican candidate, but this year's survey indicates a significant shift in support among Harding students. Support for President Obama is more than 5 percent less than in the earlier poll while support for the

Republican candidate is almost 6 percent higher. This shift in support represents a warning sign for the president, indicating a decline in his crossover appeal over the past four years.

More than 70 percent of those surveyed reported moderate or high levels of interest in the presidential campaign with more than 53 percent of those surveyed identifying the economy as the central issue in the campaign.

While Romney supporters outnumbered Obama supporters by a wide margin and Republicans outnumbered Democrats by more than a 10-1 margin (68

percent-6 percent), it is unlikely that Harding students will exert a dramatic influence over local races. Only 11 percent of those participating in the survey reported being registered to vote in White County.

Students from the political science department taking courses in parties and elections and policy analysis and applied research and the Pi Sigma Alpha honor society completed this survey of 763 likely voters among students at Harding between Sept. 26 and Oct. 15. The margin of error for the survey was +/- 3 percent.





## Q & A with District 28 Senate Seat Candidates

Hopefuls Jonathan Dismang and Tiffany Rogers discuss core issues, district plans

by LYNDESEY RUBLE  
editor-in-chief

**Q:** Tell us a little bit about yourself.

**Dismang (R):** I am a native of Maynard, Ark. I am married to Mandy (Staggs) of Searcy, and I am the proud father of two boys. We worship at the Cloverdale Church of Christ in Searcy. I graduated with honors from Beebe High School in 1997 and completed my degrees with cum laude distinction in accounting and economics at Harding University in 2001. After several years in public accounting, I took a Chief Financial Officer position with Whitwell & Ryles Real Estate Investments, LLC of North Little Rock in 2007. In addition to my position with Whitwell & Ryles, I began Dismang Consulting Services, LLC in 2008, through which I provide financial oversight for a number of companies with emphasis in real estate.

**Rogers (D):** I was born and raised in Stuttgart, Ark. I went to ASU – Jonesboro but didn't finish. I dropped out in the middle of my junior year, went home and worked ... then a job came open at Philip's Community College in Stuttgart. I got a job there with the understanding that I would finish my bachelor's degree and I did. I went ahead and got my master's degree in education too. I was working full time, and I knew that is where I wanted to be. I work in administration as the director of continuing education, and I've been there now for 15 years.

**Q:** What are the issues and ideologies that guide how you will vote on legislation?

**Dismang:** When seated on the floor of the Senate, I strive to vote from the collective perspective of our district — not from a partisan perspective, but from the standpoint of a Christian with conservative values and a common-sense approach to the issues. I fully believe in having an open government that makes it easy for you to hold me accountable for my actions.

**Rogers:** Jobs will be a big issue, especially for this district. I have a jobs plan listed on my website. I worked with a professor from the University of Arkansas and put it together this summer. It's very comprehensive and includes the White County portion, the Fayetteville Shale, the natural gas pipe, crops and possibilities for renewable energies. One of the biggest things I want to see is the continuation of the completion of the grocery tax cut. I'm House chair of the energy committee, and those issues are very important to me. I want to continue here in White County the prospects of the Fayetteville Shale.

**Q:** Why do you want to serve this district?

**Dismang:** We have had a strong history of leadership in Senate District 29, now 28. Together we have made a lot of progress for the state, and I would like to continue that progress. This is a conservative district, and I am the only conservative candidate. I will work to make sure that our views are fully represented in the state Senate.

**Rogers:** I know there is work to do in this district. I want to work for things that can be accomplished in Arkansas and things that are important and those we have control over. I'm not influenced by outside interest groups; I'm not obligated to them in any way. That's just not who I am. I am a very conservative person by nature, very much so on fiscal issues and even on several social issues. I hope and pray that people will consider me as a person instead of the letter beside my name.



## The queen and her crown



photo by ASHEL PARSONS | Student Publications  
Senior Heather Gould embraces Dr. David Burks after being crowned the 2012 Homecoming queen at the Homecoming football game on Saturday, Oct. 27. Standing close by was Gould's father, who escorted her onto the field.

## 5 Minute Film Fest

Short, sweet and shaping up for Nov. 28

by ASHLEY HEASTIE  
student writer

The departments of communication and English will sponsor the annual 5 Minute Film Festival Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. in the Benson Auditorium. The cost is \$5.

Submissions to the festival are due by Nov. 15 and can be submitted electronically via the group's Facebook page.

Prizes will be awarded to films in the following categories: best club film, worst film, best film, best music video and best screen play. The only rule for entering is that the film must be five minutes or less.

The festival is a fundraiser for the National Broadcasting Society.

Larry's Pizza sponsors a pizza party for the winner of the best club film. Other prizes from last year included guitar lessons and restaurant gift cards.

The 5 Minute Film Festival was created in 2009 by Grant Dillion, an adjunct instructor in the Department of Communication.

Dillion said he wanted a film festival in which the movies were short. Film festivals held on campus in previous years included movies that were as long as the producers wanted them to be.

Dillion said he figured people can sit through five minutes of a film and not get restless, even if it is a horrible film.

A Harding graduate, Dillion now teaches Multimedia Storytelling and Script Production for Television and Film. Dillion

said that in his script production classes, students create scripts for TV shows, commercials and short films.

During the spring semester, students in his class get scripts from students in the previous semester and make them into films. If these films are good enough, some are picked to be in the festival.

"(For) last year's (festival) someone put in a wedding video," Dillion said. "Everyone loved it, because it was funny."

Dillion said he looks forward to the unexpected moments of the festival, and that he enjoys the question-and-answer session after the show, when the audience gets to speak to the films' creators.

Dillion said he hopes to see 500 people at the film festival this year. That is close to the number of people in attendance at last year's event, before someone pulled a fire alarm during the show, causing everyone to evacuate the building for a period of time.

Senior advertising major Jenna Sampson is working with two other communication majors on a comedy film for this year's festival.

She said it is an exaggeration on real life events and a silent film.

Sampson was an actor in the festival during her freshman year and said she thinks this year will be another good experience.

"I've never produced," Sampson said. "It's always nice to get experience. I took a class in video production, but I've never done anything like this on my own."

## Theatre majors present one acts

by HANNAH ROBISON  
student writer

The curriculum of a Harding theatre major is not an easy one. Students pursuing a degree in theatre are required to choose an one-act show and produce it entirely on their own.

Every detail from posters, programs, auditions, casting, blocking scenes and performing the show are well thought out and executed. For senior theatre majors Dillon Holden and Amanda Lane, preparing one act shows for this fall has been a learning experience in a number of ways.

Holden chose the play, "Don't Say Macbeth" by Burton Bumgarner for his course requirement. Holden said the show portrays a girl in a cafe attempting to read through Shakespeare's "Macbeth." The cafe is located next to a theater, which fills the shop with actors and actresses. As the girl reads and falls asleep, the waitress of the cafe has the diners act out the show for her. The show's antagonist rushes in and reveals that you are never to say Macbeth near a theater, for it will cause terrible things

to occur. Holden said that the cast of 11 provides a comical performance and the show is filled with hidden jokes from pop culture.

"It's really quirky — goofy at points, and it keeps the audience on their toes" Holden said.

Holden said the process of planning and producing the play has been tedious, but his efforts have been rewarding.

"I've already learned a lot about myself as a director and as a performer," he said.

Holden said working with a cast of peers has been a challenge for him, but it has shown him what works within blocking a scene and displaying the best work.

"The show is going to be great and they're all doing a fantastic job," Holden said. "It's all going to pay off in the end."

Lane is juggling three productions as she prepares her one act. Recently performing in the Homecoming musical and working on a written musical for her spring senior seminar course, she is focusing her free moments on Sundays to her play, "The Snow Show."

According to Lane, the show portrays

a young girl visiting her cousin, who has never once seen snow. Through a series of vignettes, the plot leads to fulfilling the protagonist's dream of seeing snow for the first time.

Lane said she particularly enjoys plays with children and the show overall was a simple one to produce.

"Some scenes are funny, some scenes are serious," Lane said. "It's really cute and fun."

Lane's cast consists of 12 students varying from freshmen to seniors. She said that the "huge dynamic" of ranging classifications helps the younger students to follow the standards set by upperclassmen.

Lane said this process has helped her discover that she prefers performing versus directing, but the experience has been rewarding thus far.

"I've really enjoyed directing something, seeing it work and having the audience respond in a really positive way," Lane said.

"Don't Say Macbeth" and "The Snow Show" will be showing in the Ulrey Performance Arts Center Nov. 8-10 at 7 p.m.



BEYOND  
THE BUBBLE

**NEW YORK CITY** — Superstorm Sandy made landfall in the northeast Monday night, triggering fires, floods and leaving nearly 8 million people without power. As of Tuesday, there were 30 deaths due to the storm, according to CNN. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg reported 18 deaths in the city alone. According to one transit official, New York City's 108-year-old subway system has been devastated with floodwaters.

**OKLAHOMA CITY** — An Oklahoma law allowing unconcealed weapons went into effect Thursday. Under the law anyone licensed to carry a concealed firearm can choose to carry a weapon, loaded or unloaded, out in the open according to The New York Times.

**SAN FRANCISCO** — The Walt Disney Company agreed on Tuesday to purchase Lucasfilm from Star Wars creator George Lucas for a value of \$4.05 billion. The transaction will give Disney control of the Star Wars franchise, but Lucas said he will still work as a consultant on Star Wars Episode 7, which according to the company is targeted for release in 2015.

**SEARCY** — Hopkins Orthodontics is hosting a Halloween Candy Buy Back today at Berry Hill Park. The business will be buying back Halloween candy for \$1 per pound to be shipped in care packages for troops overseas. The event is from 4 to 7 p.m., and will offer food, door prizes and games.

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# Opinions

Friday, November 2, 2012

the Bison

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At the Bison, it is our goal to serve the Harding University student body with integrity, truth and open ears. However, we believe that meeting that goal is a two-way street between our staff and the public it serves.

We pledge to keep our eyes and ears open to what our community has to say and hope that, in return, that community will be an interactive audience, sharing its stories with us. We also pledge to do the basics: report accurate and relevant information, check our facts, and share them in a professional, timely manner.

If you have any story ideas, questions, comments or concerns for the Bison staff, please e-mail Lyndsey Ruble, the editor-in-chief, at [lruble@harding.edu](mailto:lruble@harding.edu)

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## OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Brittany McMahan, a senior public administration major, and Erin Grant, a senior political science and Spanish double major, discuss the merits of the 2012 presidential nominees, President Barack Obama and Gov. Mitt Romney. The presidential election will take place on Nov. 6. Tweet your thoughts on the candidates @HUSStudentPubs with #PresidentialElection.

brittany mcmahan



guest  
space

## Obama

I support President Barack Obama because Barack Obama supports me. Not to mention, he's a good president and the better candidate. Since his inauguration in 2009, Obama has had many successes.

Regarding foreign policy, Obama ended the war in Iraq and has begun the withdrawal of our troops from Afghanistan. Furthermore, he has successfully reduced the threat of loose nuclear materials as well as made significant headway in restoring the United States' hegemonic presence in the world. Obama also brought Osama bin Laden to justice, possibly one of the greatest successes of his administration and certainly the realization of a goal shared by many since Sept. 11, 2001 — an achievement that largely contributed to the weakening of al-Qaida, another huge accomplishment of the Obama administration. Economically, the nation has enjoyed 31 consecutive months of job growth, 5.2 million jobs added to the private sector, a boost in American manufacturing, an inclining stock market and a lower unemployment rate.

There are several additional reasons why Obama deserves your vote over Gov. Mitt Romney. Time and time again, Obama has proved his dedication to women's rights. As a young woman, my health is important to me, as is my ability to earn an equal living like my male counterparts. One of the reasons I voted for Obama is that he supports equal pay for women, as demonstrated in his passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009. I also support the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare"), and all young women should too. Obamacare fully covers preventative health care for women such as well-woman visits, birth control, testing for HPV, HIV screening/counseling and mammograms. Also, Obama has consistently supported a woman's right to choose. He supports organizations like Planned Parenthood that are dedicated to serving the health needs of women.

Furthermore, as a college student, I believe Obama is the way to go. From day one, he has made it a priority to make higher education more affordable for young Americans. Not only has he doubled investments in Pell Grants and reformed student loans, but he has also passed initiatives like Race to the Top, which creates more competent teachers and learning environments on the K-12 level, to better prepare students for higher education and the workplace.

Possibly one of my proudest moments of this administration was the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. Under no circumstances should the men and women who honorably serve this nation be discriminated against. The president made a notable comment during the repeal of DADT. He said, "We are not a nation that says, 'Don't ask, don't tell.' We are a nation that says, 'Out of many, we are one.'" That statement is not only applicable to our gay and lesbian servicemen and women, but to women who choose abortion, Muslim-Americans who worship at a mosque and not in a pew, immigrants and even presidents whose middle names are Hussein.

The point is that we are the United States of America. This country represents men and women from every facet of life, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religious background (or lack thereof) and a variety of belief systems. Obama is a man who upholds all of that. He has done his best, and I believe that he will continue to do his best, to bring his goals to fruition, which will create a better USA for everyone. I've got his back. You should, too.

BRITTANY MCMAHAN is a guest contributor for the Bison. She may be contacted at [bmcman@harding.edu](mailto:bmcman@harding.edu).

erin grant



guest  
space

## Romney

Election season: a time of vague slogans and plentiful promises, sharp accusations, flashy ads, poignant commercials and endless phone calls, all from candidates vying for you to fill in that little bubble next to their name on election day. But what happens when truth gets lost in the hype? What do the candidates stand for, really? When you feel things just aren't right with our nation, and both candidates seem intent only on hurling accusations but neither provides any visible hope of making things better, whom do you vote for? Why vote at all? And of the two candidates more specifically, why vote for Gov. Mitt Romney?

I freely admit I am biased, but I hopefully have reasoned this through enough to at least present a logical bias.

First, Romney has a plan, a budget compromise he has repeatedly presented throughout his campaign. People pointedly criticize the bar Romney's plan sets; yet, for so long, we have set no bar. Something needs to be done. We have not submitted a budget in three years — the longest time our government has operated without one. Calling for fiscal responsibility without a solid plan resembles trying to construct a house with no blueprint. Creating a stable building requires guidelines, measurements and knowing how much material you have to work with. Similarly, solutions to our economic problems require something more tangible than words of fiscal responsibility.

Second, Romney respects the sanctity of life. Christians can campaign to save the children, but our real position is determined by which policies we support at the ballot box. Ultimately, a nation that doesn't respect life begins to lose respect for its weakest members. The reality: Between 2001 and 2003, then-Senator Obama voted several times against the Born Alive Infant Protection Act, a bill to protect children born alive during attempted abortions from being killed after birth, saying that granting a "previable fetus" (a child already born but unable to survive independently) human rights would ruin women's abortion rights. Today, Obama continues advocating "women's reproductive rights" and "choice," even mentioning that if his daughters ever "make a mistake" and become pregnant, he does not want to see them "punished with a baby." Let's face it; supporting this president inherently supports his policies. Whether or not you are anti-abortion is not for others to determine. The real question remains: Do your choices reflect what you say you believe?

Finally, third party votes are not the answer. Romney cannot promise economic salvation, but he presents at least a glimmer of hope toward changing an unsustainable status quo that third party candidates could never realistically aspire to provide.

But why trust what the candidates say? The races seem to present as many options as the original Model T; you can choose any candidate you want, but really, they're all the same. We must instead look at what we know. In the past four years, gas prices have doubled. The national deficit has exploded to proportions bigger than all past deficits combined. Each of us now owes more than \$51,000 in debt, to be paid for in longer work hours, later retirements, the growing possibility of never owning our own house or car and, if these policies continue, inevitable economic collapse.

So what do we know? Current policies are unsustainable. As former President Bill Clinton observed, "It's the economy, stupid." Bad economic policies equal a bad economy, which means fewer jobs. Prolonging these debt-inducing policies only ensures that jobs won't come.

Ultimately, these are not the only reasons to vote for a candidate. Do your own research. Form your own opinions. However, these are major issues that we must consider.

So what do we do? It's time to break status quo. Change will not come through rhetoric. Romney is no savior, but he presents options that illusionary third-party presidents cannot and that Obama never will. It's time we set a bar. America, confronted with a soaring deficit and frighteningly stagnant economy, can no longer make concessions to this insatiable crusade for "change."

ERIN GRANT is a guest contributor for the Bison. She may be contacted at [egrant@harding.edu](mailto:egrant@harding.edu).

aerial whiting

Happiness  
Is ...



## Getting Past Awkward

This past weekend I attempted to roller-skate at Thrills on Wheels. I say "attempt" because I spent most of my time in the rink clinging to the side as if it was the only thing saving me from total embarrassment and a bruised tailbone. Though I did not achieve anything that remotely resembled skating, I managed to leave with my dignity mostly intact. It was definitely a comical, getting-out-of-my-comfort-zone experience, but that is not quite what I mean by "getting past awkward." No, what I am referring to has to do with talking to people.

Most of the people I have encountered at Harding are relatively gregarious, a fact that has been attested to this week by All-Club Devo and induction activities. But I think many of us (and I include myself in this) tend to shy away from conversations that we consider awkward. These conversations take many forms, but the common denominator is that we avoid them because they make us uncomfortable even though it is beneficial and often essential that we have them.

For starters, once we find our circle of friends at school or at church, a lot of us become complacent and are less inclined to meet new people. We stay within our cliques and fail to reach out to visitors or peers we have not gotten to know well. While it is commendable to nurture the friendships we already have, we should not do so at the expense of trying to form new relationships. It could be that the people we are unacquainted with are bffs-in-the-making, or it could be that they need someone to reach out to them. If we let the awkwardness of initiating conversation with them inhibit us, we will never know what blessings could come from forming those connections.

What can be harder than meeting new people, though, is lovingly confronting people we know already. Perhaps we have a friend or classmate who has hurt us personally. We could easily neglect to say anything about it, which would in turn perhaps allow the person's undesirable behavior to continue or for our resentment to grow. Or we could complain about the problem to every friend we have except the one with whom we have an issue. But the scriptural model is to go to that person privately, at least at first, to seek correction of the problem and to bring about reconciliation (Matthew 18:15-17).

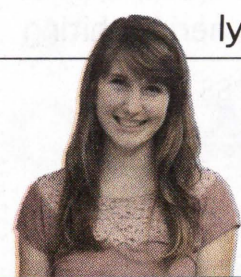
Perhaps harder still is admitting when we are the ones who have wronged someone else. Pride can keep us from apologizing for our mistakes, and we might secretly hope that no one calls us out for our poor decisions. However, just as we have an obligation to privately address our concerns when we feel that we have been wronged, so too we have an obligation to seek to restore relationships when we are at fault, irrespective of how awkward it might be (Matthew 5:23-26).

Most importantly, we need to become more comfortable sharing the good news of Christ. Rather than being inhibited by what we might perceive as the awkwardness of talking about Jesus, we should be overflowing with excitement and gratitude for the salvation he brings, and we should feel compelled to spread the gospel to everyone who has not yet received it.

When we talk to people even though it makes us uncomfortable, wonderful things can happen, like forming new friendships, restoring old ones or bringing others to a knowledge of our Lord and Savior. Therefore, happiness is getting past awkward.

AERIAL WHITING is the opinions editor for the Bison. She may be contacted at [awhiting@harding.edu](mailto:awhiting@harding.edu).





lyndsey ruble

### Moral of the Story

## Do We Still Need the Electoral College?

Poll results published by Gallup on Oct. 30 showed Mitt Romney ahead of President Barack Obama by five points. Rasmussen had Romney up by two and the average difference, according to Real Clear Politics, was 0.8 in Romney's favor.

The numbers have flip-flopped the last several weeks. The popular vote will most definitely be a fight. With the Electoral College still granting Obama 10 more votes than Romney and several significant swing states still up in the air, it is difficult to predict what could happen on Tuesday.

It is quite possible that the election will be a repeat of 2000, when Al Gore won the popular vote but Bush won the Electoral College vote.

The Electoral College was established by the U.S. Constitution. The purpose was to allow voters to cast votes for electors, who would then cast their votes for candidates. At the time, there was fear of the uneducated popular vote accompanied by fear of allowing Congress to choose the president. The Electoral College was the compromise.

Forty-eight states practice a winner-take-all system in which every electoral vote for a state goes to the candidate who won the popular vote in the state. This can be a big deal for large states with a lot of electoral votes, such as California or Texas. Maine and Nebraska practice what is called a congressional district method, in which each elector votes to represent different districts with different conclusions.

The trouble comes when electors pledge to vote based on their state or congressional district, but then change their mind and vote for the other candidate. At least two dozen states have established punishment for these faithless electors; yet, it still happens and is one major criticism of the Electoral College system.

Today, a candidate must receive 270 of the 538 electoral votes to win. In cases where there is no majority, the decision is given to the House of Representatives. The House selects the president by majority vote with each state delegation receiving one vote.

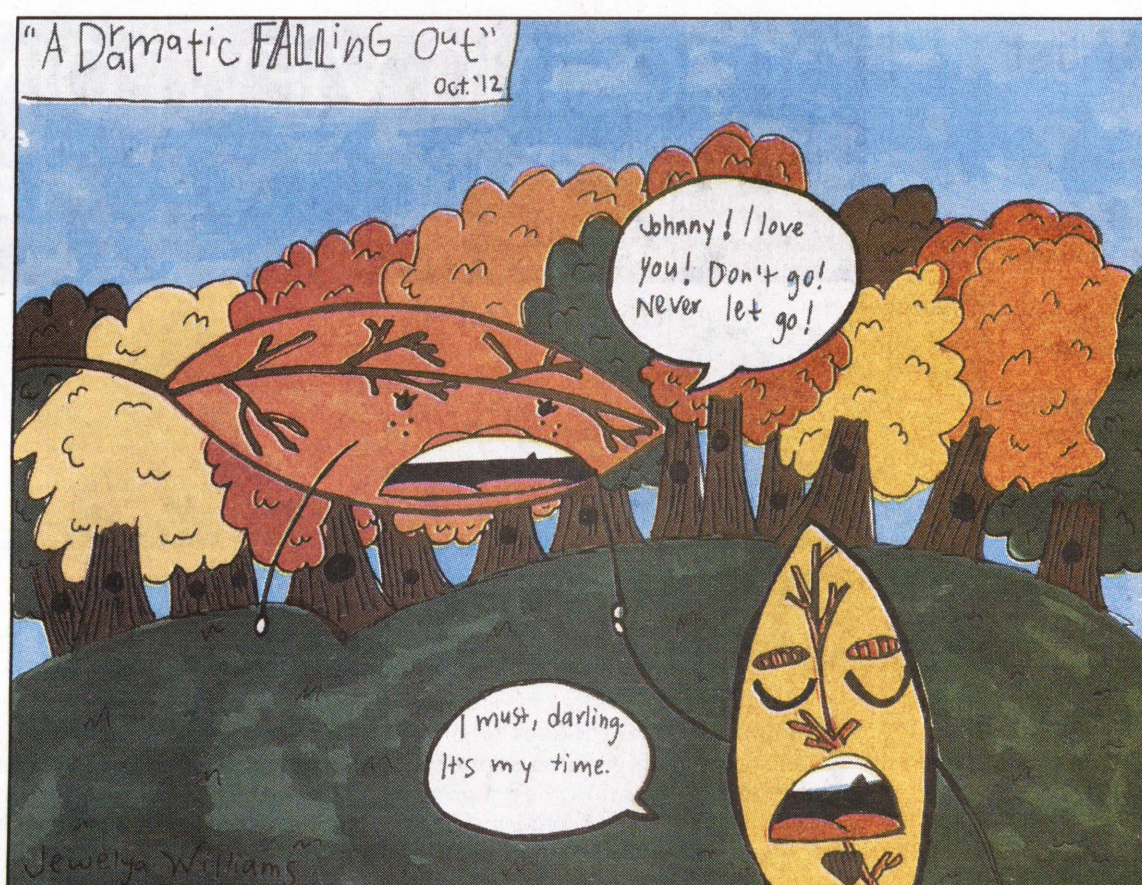
Since the 2000 elections, many states and government leaders have called for Electoral College reform.

This election may very well be the tipping point for the Electoral College. Just imagine if Obama won the popular vote and then the Electoral College declared Romney as president of the United States. Claims of racism and attacks on the Republican House would surely ensue. Or if Romney won the popular vote and Obama won the electoral? I shudder when I consider the wrath Rush Limbaugh would bestow upon the airwaves.

The pandemonium may be enough to either radically change the Electoral College or spur thoughts of why the U.S. established the system in the first place.

Moral of the story: At the very least, America needs to assure that the electoral vote will align with the popular vote. A better solution might be to scrap the system all together. After all, the original purpose was to compromise between a mistrust of big government and a mistrust of the common man. Neither fear is nearly as prominent or rational anymore. With a strong watchdog media, systems of checks and balances for every major agency and an educated and literate public, I believe we can trust our own to adequately choose their leader.

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## Now Accepting Reservations



jess boyd

### guest space

I visited the Kennedy Space Center in Cocoa Beach, Fla., at least once a year growing up. Touring the museum and the inside of a model space shuttle blew my mind away, although, as a child, I found that eating the freeze-dried astronaut ice cream was always the highlight of the trip.

My grandmother also lived in Cocoa Beach and we would watch the space shuttle launches from her front porch. What child does not dream of becoming an astronaut?

Because of my love of space, my eyes were glued to the television watching Felix Baumgartner skydive from 24 miles above the earth on Oct. 14. After

ascending to an altitude of 128,100 feet in a high-altitude balloon, he gently stepped off the capsule to begin his descent back to earth.

After about 40 seconds Baumgartner accelerated enough to break the sound barrier, which has never been done by a free-fall skydiver. It only took about nine minutes for him to land safely on his feet in the New Mexico desert.

In an interview with "The Today Show," Baumgartner said, "I had an incredible view when I was standing on top of the world, but at the same time you realize everything around is hostile. I thought, 'I had the privilege to stand here and nobody else was there before.' When you step off, you're on the way."

Before, space was a far-off idea you could only see in photos. Only a select few who trained to be astronauts got to experience the weightlessness and beauty of space. After one advanced math class in high school I knew I did not have what it takes to join those select few.

However, the possibility for the av-

erage person to travel to space is slowly becoming a reality. Virgin Galactic has been accepting reservations for SpaceShipTwo since 2005. If you have \$200,000 lying around, you too could join aspiring astronauts for a day-long trip to enjoy the silence and weightlessness of space. Some people dream of a vacation to Europe or the Caribbean, but what about being able to gaze over all of those locations from your window?

So maybe a \$200,000 flight or jumping out of a capsule faster than the speed of sound is not your thing. In all truthfulness, it is not mine either. The idea that space, the final frontier, is now open for visitors is an astounding concept. Only 43 years ago man first stepped on the moon. Who knows, maybe 43 years from now our grandchildren will attend classes at HIS: Harding in Space.

**JESS BOYD** is the web editor for the Bison. She may be contacted at [jboyd1@harding.edu](mailto:jboyd1@harding.edu).

### Just the Clax

## Feeling Fit to Be Tied

Two weeks ago I mentioned my favorite T-shirt. Last week I wrote about a sport jacket. Obviously I'm getting low on material and am reduced to ransacking the closet for column topics. Skipping over my old French Club sweater and Bullwinkle baseball cap, I guess I should say something about my thing for neckties. Of which I have 44 coat hangers full.

But first, let me explain that I'm no Imelda Marcos. She's the widow of that former Philippine president who was known in the '90s for his extravagant lifestyle. They say that Mrs. Marcos has owned more than 2,700 pairs of shoes. That's more than 5,000 individual shoes, which is why every morning it takes her three days to decide which pair to wear. She's so far behind that yesterday she picked out some ballerina flats to go shopping in August of 1992.

Compared to Imelda then, at only 569 neckties, I clearly do not have a problem.

It all started the first year in high school. I was trying to figure out my own sense of style, how I wanted to present myself. Since I had stopped channeling the Count, and since my Pee Wee Herman phase in 1985 had been mercifully brief, I was still searching for an identity.

I found it at a flea market in Decatur, Ga. Dad and I were out on our weekly yard sale hunt, and in the back of this dark junk shop, I stumbled onto my destiny. There, on a rusty coat-hanger next to some old overalls, was the tie. It was wide. It was fallow brown. It had a gaudy repeating pattern of the Atlanta skyline on it. My memory may be playing tricks on me, but I'm almost certain there was a beam of sunlight



michael claxton

coming through a broken window pane in the flea market, shining right down on this polyester beauty.

I wore it to Rockdale County High School the next Friday, and the New Clax was born. The tie was just tacky enough to stand out among all the Reeboks and Members-Only jackets, and it brought me exactly what every 14-year-old boy needs. No, it wasn't deodorant. It was attention. Stares, giggles — even heckling. It didn't matter. It was still attention. By the following Friday, I had found another obnoxious tie. Soon my collection was snowballing.

It got to the point that in the next four years of Fridays, I never wore the same tie twice.

I was mostly drawn to the classics, especially those loud silk ties of the 1940s. I idolized Harry Anderson — the magician-turned-judge on the TV sitcom "Night Court," who wore fedoras, tweed sport coats and vintage ties with hand-painted palm trees. Who knew that years later I would meet the man himself and even own one of the ties he actually wore on TV. I'll bet Imelda Marcos never wore any celebrity pumps. But I digress.

Occasionally my ties matched the rest of what I was wearing, but usually not. I was too busy keeping track of which ones I had already worn to worry about coordinating colors. I'm sure there were days my mother had to avert her eyes when I left for school.

But every week my friends looked forward to Fridays to see what new tie I would wear. There was just not much else to do in Rockdale County.

This dorkiness culminated in an epic showdown. A week before I graduated, I picked out four of my most hideous ties — the kind from the 1970s that were so wide they could almost double for a shirt. I gave one each to our principal and three other school administrators, who had all chided me about my fashion sense over the years. I dared those guys to wear them. Then, on the last day of school, while I was taking a final exam in English, there was a knock on the door. All four men came into the classroom, wearing these awful ties. They asked my teacher, Mr. Cope, if they could interrupt the exam for a presentation. The quartet hummed a bar to harmonize and then broke into song. It went like this:

"We'll miss you, Michael Claxton, We hate to say goodbye.

We'll miss you, Michael Claxton, But we won't miss ... those ties."

Then each man handed me a brown paper bag. Inside was an ugly tie from his own closet. Without further word, they left, leaving poor Mr. Cope to restore order. It was an unprecedented event in the annals of Rockdale High. As odd as it was, I had indeed found a way to stand out. At least it was no worse than Ricky Piedrahita, who once stood on top of a table during lunch and sang "I'm a Little Teapot."

And you thought I had problems.

**MICHAEL CLAXTON** is a guest contributor for the Bison. He may be contacted at [mclaxto1@harding.edu](mailto:mclaxto1@harding.edu).



Alexis Hosticka

November 2, 2012

Vol. 88 No. 7



*Out  
of left  
field*

## Just let the referees be

Referees and umpires can be the laughingstock of any sporting event.

As we saw earlier this year, the NFL replacement refs had that problem for a few weeks.

But I think an issue that hits closer to home is the student refs for intramural and club sports.

Anyone who has watched an A-team game between two large clubs knows that the fans can be a bit of a hassle.

I have played intramural sports, and I know that sometimes the officials just don't make the right call.

But unlike professional sports officials, intramural and club sport refs do not require training, experience or any particular kind of qualifications.

I am not saying that this gives them an excuse to mess up, but we can't be too mad when they miss a close call.

And honestly, when have you ever seen a sports official change their call in a game due to fan hassling?

Never.

Since the days of little league and pee-wee football, we are taught to be respectful when we play sports.

Players are expected to play (not argue), spectators are expected to calmly cheer on the sidelines (not coach), coaches are expected to coach (not ref) and officials are expected to officiate.

By the time you get to college, those roles are still very much the same.

Yes, the fans will jeer and shout and grumble and argue, but there comes a point at which you have to let the refs do their job.

So should the fans even bother yelling at the refs? When the game is a "real" NCAA or professional game, go for it. It's part of the game to voice your opinions, get angry, excited, and upset about the outcomes of games.

I mean, it makes it way more fun. And usually, the refs can't even hear you.

And let's be real: The only people who have even a chance of changing the officials' minds are the coaches.

But when your friends are refereeing a game between your friends and their respective social club rivals, give it a break.

As I have heard from some of my friends who work as officials for intramurals and club sports, it's stressful to be running up and down the field making calls.

They only have so many eyes to watch each play and can only see it from so many angles.

They try their best. And it's just a game.

So as much as you may want to cheer against the referees, when it comes to intramurals and club sports, just cheer for the team instead.

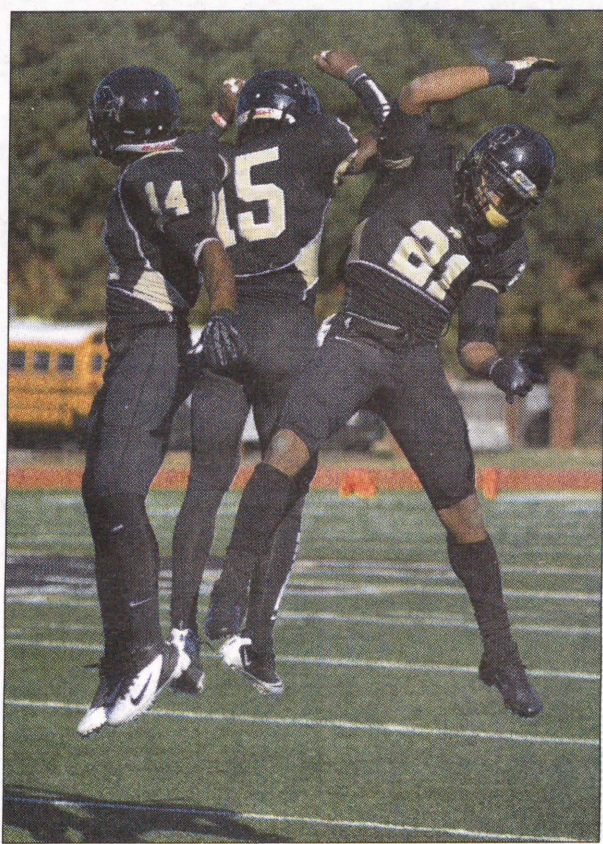


photo by ASHEL PARSONS | Student Publications  
Seniors Tramaine Wilkes and Nathan Brinkley, and junior Ashtun Williams celebrate after a play during the Homecoming game against Arkansas Tech on Oct. 27.

## Sweet 16

Bisons set records this week

by AERIAL WHITING  
opinions editor

The Bison football team broke school records as it steamrolled the Arkansas Tech University Wonder Boys 76-23 at the Homecoming game on Oct. 27.

Seventy-six points is the most the football team has earned in a game, beating the record high of 75 points set last year against Shepherd Tech University.

The Bisons are now ranked No. 16 in NCAA Division II, according to the AFCA Coaches poll. The previous school record was No. 18, set in 2002. The Bisons are also 7-1 overall and 5-1 in conference play.

Head coach Ronnie Huckeba said he is excited about the football team's ranking and that the football program will continue to focus on the things that have made it successful so far as it heads into the remainder of the season.

"It's nice to be recognized," Huckeba said. "This is a good football team; we're very proud of them — proud of all the work that the players and coaches have done to get to this point."

Sophomore kicker John Gay made two field goals in the first six minutes of the game, and senior Dempsey

Bonner and sophomore Jason Oller (receiving a 72-yard pass from senior quarterback Kelvin Martin) each scored a touchdown later in the first quarter, making the score 20-0 at the quarter's end.

With 14:39 on the clock in the second quarter, Martin made a touchdown for a score of 27 points, followed by sophomore fullback Romo Westbrook, who made a 90-yard touchdown run, bringing the score to 34.

The score was 48-16 at halftime. In the third quarter, the Bisons scored three more touchdowns, including a 75-yard run by Westbrook. They finished the quarter with a 62-16 lead.

The Wonder Boys made one final touchdown during the fourth quarter. The Bisons made two more touchdowns as well, finishing up the game.

One of the highlights was a new school record set by Gay, who made all 10 of his extra points. Gay said his teammates helped him achieve this success.

"I'm really impressed with them because we haven't had a blocked kick yet, and we've kicked a lot this season," Gay said.

The Bisons hit the road to face Southeastern Oklahoma State University tomorrow at 2 p.m.

## Volleyball goes for championship

by MATT CHAFFIN  
asst. sports editor

The Lady Bisons volleyball team kept its winning streak alive with a big Great American Conference win over Arkansas Tech University on Tuesday night on the road.

The ladies defeated the Golden Suns 3-1, giving them a perfect 12-0 record in the GAC.

Arkansas Tech won the first set 25-22, but Harding took the next three sets by six or more points each.

Not only have the Lady Bisons won their last nine matches and held on to first place in the GAC standings, they have also shut out their opponents in seven of those matches.

The last set the Lady Bisons surrendered was four weeks ago against Northwest Missouri State University in a 3-1 win in the Washburn Tournament.

Coming into the Ouachita Baptist University match on Oct. 25, Harding was undefeated and in first place in the GAC, while Ouachita Baptist was tied for the second spot in the conference with Harding's conference rival Arkansas Tech.

The Lady Bisons grabbed the first set of the match behind five first-set kills from sophomore Marindia Turner.

Until the first set of the Arkansas Tech game on Tuesday, the Lady Bisons had a winning streak of 22 straight set wins.

Coach Meredith Fear and the Lady Bisons found themselves down to the Tigers 20-16 in the set after the third service error for Harding that set.

Turner stepped up with the next six Harding kills to lead the Lady Bisons on

If we controlled what we could, we would win the set, and we did.

Meredith Fear,  
volleyball coach

an 8-2 run as Harding took the second set by a narrow 25-23 score.

"It was all about us and all in our control; we had three missed serves, we just had to calm down a little bit," Fear said. "If we controlled what we could, we would win the set, and we did."

With the win over Ouachita Baptist, Harding stays undefeated in conference games as they are now 12-0 against the rest of the Great American Conference. Six of their seven shutout wins have come in the Rhodes Field House.

"It's amazing, I love it," said outside hitter sophomore Liv Savage about the teams undefeated conference record.

Each year's conference tournament is played in the home gym of the team who wins the regular-season crown.

That means that this year's GAC tournament is just one Harding victory away from potentially calling the Rhodes Field House its home.

Next on the schedule for the Harding volleyball team is Northwestern Oklahoma State as the Lady Bisons will be going on the road for the second straight match tomorrow to Alva, Okla.

The Rangers' season has been a struggle as they are just 1-25 for the season and a winless 0-13 in the Great American Conference.

First serve for the game against Northwestern Oklahoma State is set for 2 p.m. on Nov. 3.



photo by ASHEL PARSONS | Student Publications  
Senior Amber Schinzing and freshman Shelby Daniel try to save the ball in their home match versus Oklahoma State University on Oct. 18. The Lady Bisons won the match 3-0.

## Cross-country headed to regional meet

Teams place second in conference, set to face national champion in regional

by ASHLEY ROSENBAUM  
guest writer

After placing second in the Great American Conference Championship, the men's and women's cross-country teams have been training hard to participate in the NAACP regional meet Nov. 3 in Joplin, Mo.

This is the cross-country team's third region in three years, with the defending National Champion in this region.

If they are one of the top four teams, they will qualify for the NCAA Championship meet.

At the GAC Championship, sophomore Ewa Zaborowska won the women's race and was named Runner of the Year. Kelsey Taylor was named Freshman of the Year. Zaborowska, Taylor and

Freshman Tammy Kim made first team all-conference. Sophomores Dallis Bailey and Rachel Roberts were named to the second team all-conference.

Sophomores Lajos Farkas and Logan Green and junior Matthew Cumpian were all named to the men's all-conference team.

"We went into the championship knowing we had a shot to win but came up a little short," head coach Steve Guymon said. "Honestly, I'm proud of our team and all they have done and the work they put in but I'm disappointed in the results. Personally, I do not like second place."

Senior Molly Elliott said that the challenging part about preparing for the regional meet is that it is a 6K for the women's team, which they haven't done one all year.

"Mentally, it's going to be harder,"

Elliott said. "It's all in your head, you have to just keep going. You have to tell yourself, you're almost there, you're almost done. It's really hard. We do a lot of hard workouts and we push each other."

Junior Andrew Evans, who will run in the 10K for the men's cross-country team, said that they feel like they are going to surprise a lot of people at the regional meet.

"Most people don't expect us to finish as one of the top four teams that make it to nationals, but if we race well, we are definitely capable of that," Evans said. "Last year, we did not race as well as we were capable of at regionals and we need to make sure that doesn't happen again this year. If we run well, we will definitely place better than last year."

Elliott said that the best way to improve your running time is to

run with other girls on the team.

"There is no way I could run the times I run now if I didn't have other girls to run with," Elliott said. "I wouldn't push myself if I was out running by myself. We encourage each other and we make each other want to do better. I run with girls that are better than me, so I can get better. If you slack off in the back, then you aren't going to improve."

Evans said that they have been training hard since the beginning of summer to get ready for the regional meet so they can finish in the top four and make it to nationals.

"We have made a few changes about how we do things," Evans said. "I think those will begin to pay off at the end of the season, and then definitely into the next season."



## Preseason DI defeat for Lady Bisons

by ALEXIS HOSTICKA  
sports editor

After being voted the Great American Conference preseason favorite, the Lady Bison basketball team is 1-1 in exhibition games.

Harding won five of the nine votes for the favorite spot, beating out last year's conference tournament champion Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

The Lady Bisons' most recent game was a 68-54 defeat over Division I school, Oral Roberts University on Oct. 29. This is the third time in the last five years that they have defeated a DI school. Harding scored eight 3-pointers in the game and was led by sophomore guard Shana Holmes, who scored 17 points.

The game was the first time Oral Roberts lost to a non-Division I opponent since their 1993 season.

Junior guard Katy Preaus said she is happy with the preseason games and said they are leading up to a successful regular season.

"(The exhibition games) are going good," Preaus said. "We're facing some challenges, but learning from them and making adjustments. We're getting better each game and I'm looking forward to seeing how we play out this year in conference."

The first game Harding played this season was against another DI school, Wichita State University, on Oct. 28. Harding lost that game 88-47, but still out-rebounded their opponents, 32-37.

Holmes also led the team in the Wichita State game, scoring 15 points.

Freshman guard Amelia Bramer said she is confident in the team's abilities based on what she has seen so far at the exhibitions.

"(The games) went well," Bramer said. "It showed us what we need to work on and helped us learn how to play together. I think the season is going to go really well. We've got a lot of potential and talent and we are ready to show everyone what we're capable of."

The Lady Bisons next exhibition game is tonight at 6 p.m. at Western Kentucky University.

It will be Western Kentucky's first game of the season. Last season they were 9-21.

The season officially starts on Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m. when Christian Brothers University comes to the Rhodes Field House.

Last season, the Lady Bisons defeated the Buccaneers 74-56 and 82-54.

Men's basketball will kick off their season on Nov. 12.

## Young Alumni reunite



photo by SAVANNAH LEE | Student Publications

Graduate Jordan Smith grills at the young alumni tailgate before the Homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 27. The tailgate was organized by GenerationHU, a new group for recent Harding graduates.

## Men's soccer closes season with 7-1 loss

by AMY MARÉ  
multimedia editor

The men's soccer team fell 7-1 to No. 15 Northeastern State University this past weekend.

It was the final game of the season for Harding, as well as senior night. The Bisons finished 4-11-3 overall and 2-7-1 in conference.

Harding's goal came from senior Jackson Savage 41 minutes into the game. It was his fourth goal of the season and sixth in his career.

Throughout the game, Northeastern had 31 shots on goal, with 20 of those in the second half. Savage had four of Harding's nine shots, the team-high.

"The loss this past Friday can be credited to the well

organized, nationally ranked 15th, Northeastern State," said graduate assistant coach Austin Brown. "They outplayed us on Friday, but at their place we competed much better. Sometimes you just have to learn from a loss and build from there."

This game was the final game in the careers of five Bison players.

Brandon Bailey, Josh Ireland, Victor Moya, Rhon Royer and Jackson Savage were all honored on senior night for their accomplishments during their time as Bisons. They combined to play more than 300 games for Harding. With the close of this season, the Bisons have nothing to do but look to the season ahead. They do not have any games scheduled

yet in the offseason, but are still preparing themselves for the spring semester and their next full season.

"I am most looking forward to our progression next year," junior midfielder Ryan Wilhelm said. "We'll lose five guys to graduation, but most of our team will be back with more experience."

According to Brown, off season does not officially start until after Christmas, but the players are off for awhile due to NCAA rules.

"It is important for each player to take advantage of this off period to lift this program to where it needs to be," Brown said.

Members of the team use this time to work on their game individually as well as hit the weight room.

"I think our team will definitely improve next season," Wilhelm said. "We know what caliber of teams we are going up against in the MIAA and that we have to bring out A-game no matter what. This offseason will be a great chance to work on getting better."

Looking ahead, the coaches will begin recruiting and preparing for the upcoming season. They cannot let the loss of the seniors knock the team off focus.

"As for next season the next step is to begin the recruiting process," Brown said. "The team graduated five solid seniors and we have to hit the ground running to do our best to bring in quality players to fill many critical positions."

## When the competitive edge goes a little too far

Lucas Horn



Guest  
space

out the worst in people. There are people who will never have a good reputation because of the way they act on a court or field.

Due to competition gone awry, Ronald William Artest Jr., is not in the NBA, but some dude named Metta World Peace is. In that infamous Pistons-Pacers match-up, Artest did not only fight the Pistons players, but decided to go into the stands and punch any Detroit fan he could get his Metta World Peace fists on.

In my favorite brawl, Yankees-Red Sox playoff game, Pedro Martinez did not even want to face someone within four decades of himself.

He decided that Don Zimmer, 40 years older than Martinez, would be a better person to Olay and let him fall.

Seeing as it's club week, there has even been a good ole "bleacher clearing no punches thrown brawl" in club basketball two years ago.

I would never argue that sports are bad. They are very useful in helping many people grow up. Too many times though, due to whatever reason, sports go askew and turn dangerous.

I have often times gotten too caught up in what was going on and said or done something stupid. But what is it about the human

mind that takes competition to another level?

I am not justifying professional sports brawls, but they are at least over millions of dollars. High school sports are more about bragging rights and pride than anything else, yet one word can get under the skin enough that stupid things happen. From the outside it is easy to look in and say that the "too competitive gene" is dumb.

Yes, it is ridiculous to fight over a club basketball game, but is that different and worse than saying you had a bad day because your sports team lost? As I watched Kolton Browning run into the end zone

during week two of the college football season, I quickly deemed the weekend a terrible one. I made a conscious decision that I was going to have a horrible weekend because the team I root for could not cross a white line carrying a ball made of skin from a pig as many times as the other team.

How absurd is that?

I am not saying not to be passionate. There is a time for seriousness and a time for fun, but sometime we have to stop taking things too seriously and see the big picture.

And let's face it: in the big picture, with the big guy, it doesn't matter who wins or loses.

## LOCKER TALK

Our Athletes' Views  
on Pop Culture

### questions

What is your favorite Christmas memory?

When my dog learned to open her own presents.

I accidentally unwrapped my brother's XL shirt thinking it was mine.

Having a white Christmas in Colorado and snowboarding.

When I got my N64.

When my uncle got Superhero underwear.

What is the most played song on your iPod?

"Remember the Name" by Fort Minor.

"Angel Eyes" by Love and Theft.

"Stellar" by Incubus.

"Amazing" by Kanye West.

"Fix You" by Coldplay.

What is your favorite weird food combination?

Buttered noodles and ketchup.

Dill pickles and cheddar cheese.

I don't have any.

Ketchup and lettuce, yummm!

Hot Cheetos and mint chocolate chip ice cream.

If you could date any celebrity, who would it be?

Zoey Deschanel.

Jared Padalecki.

Jessica Biel.

Miley Cyrus.

Robert Downey Jr.

If you were a spy what would your alias be?

Chris Taylor.

The runaway spy.

Asher.

Rocky Salt.

Tracy Keen.



## Moving forward

### After tornado tragedy, HU student looks ahead, reflects

by RYAN FOSTER  
business manager

After an F5 tornado ripped through Joplin, Mo., in 2011, it left one Harding student without parents or a home. The storm resulted in \$2.8 billion in damage and the loss of 158 lives.

Quinton Anderson, a freshman at Harding, was a victim of this tragedy and has been overcoming the challenges created by that fateful May afternoon.

"I looked up to my left and saw sky and I knew the roof was gone, and as I was realizing the roof was gone, the back wall I was sitting against came down and smashed me, that's the last thing I remember," Anderson said.

A classmate and friend of Anderson from home, Ryan Snyder, said he immediately texted all of his friends to see if they were OK, but Anderson was the only one who did not text back.

Once he was found by a neighbor he faced seven hours of triage to treat multiple injuries including: a fractured skull, shattered orbital bone, shattered vertebrae, cuts and abrasions, decompressed lungs and a lacerated spleen.

Even after a year he has to wear a shin guard to prevent agitation to the skin grafts on his leg.

The extreme devastation created by the storm received media attention and community outreach. Thousands of volunteers poured into Joplin to help, which drew the attention of the national government.

President Barack Obama gave the commencement speech for the graduating class of 2012 one year after the storm and personally addressed Anderson.

With themes of perseverance and hope, the speech was personal and provided many stories that showed the outreach given to the people of Joplin.

"We can define our lives not by what happens to us, but by how we respond, we choose to carry on," Obama said in the speech.

"I'm not a fan of his political stance, but it was pretty awesome. It's a privilege that he addressed me," Anderson said. "He's a nice guy."

Snyder said that Obama's visit will be something he will always remember.

"He gave a really good speech and he made a point to shake most of the graduates hands," Snyder said. "That's something all of us will be able to talk about for the rest of our lives."

Today, Anderson studies cellular and molecular biology. He is coping with his loss but is pressing on.

"After the storm, there were different realizations, and I decided to come to Harding," Anderson said. "There's only one way to go in life and that's forward. If you don't go forward, you're just going to keep falling down again and again."

## Clean slate for new clubs

by MATT RYAN  
features editor

As most social clubs spent club week emerging new members into the culture and traditions of their club, members of men's club Omega Phi and women's club Sigma Phi Mu began the week with a blank slate. Old members in the two young clubs found themselves responsible for creating entirely new legacies and traditions as they welcomed in their first classes of new members.

Senior Omega Phi president Stephen Albers, along with senior vice presidents Carter Lowe, Mark Briggs and sophomore Austin Collum, began planning Omega Phi during the spring 2012 semester. Albers said they chose to name the club "Omega Phi" after an old men's club at Harding by the same name.

"We wanted to create a club that was completely centered on Christ," Albers said. "A lot of clubs are that way, but we wanted to be a place where the club was not your life, but it was a place where your faith could grow and could be sharpened."

Omega Phi's club week consisted of many of the same basic elements that all clubs incorporate into the week, like All-Club Devo and spending time with other clubs, but it also included several unique aspects. Briggs said old members decorated hammers in maroon and

gold to pass to their little brothers, symbolizing the message of the club's verse, Proverbs 27:17; that "as iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

"We want this to be around for more than like 10 years, or even 20 years," Briggs said. "We're hoping to be able to come back and this still be a stable and very much functional club. One thing that we are trying to instill is that as the first class, this is the foundation. Like we built the foundation, and you are the first pillars to hold this up."

Sigma Phi Mu joined Omega Phi for a cookout on Tuesday evening, where old and new members of both clubs had the chance to get to know others in a young club. Senior Sigma Phi Mu vice president Ashley Russell said she is glad to have another club in the same situation that her club is in.

"I was really excited," Russell said. "I think we have a lot in common. We're both small clubs still but we both want to become big clubs; we both took more new members than we had old members. So I think it's cool because I've been able to bounce some stuff off them and I think we are kind of going through a lot of the same things. It's really nice."

Sigma Phi Mu began last year after several of the club's founding members were approached by the deans about beginning a new club.



photo by SAVANNAH LEE | Student Publications  
Sophomores Blake Allen, Ben Sittton and Moriah Blankenship mingle as freshman Casey Stringer asks for signatures during the Omega Phi and Sigma Phi Mu joint cookout Tuesday evening.

"It's really heartbreaking to see so many girls get turned away," Russell said. "So we decided, 'Hey, why don't we go ahead and do it?'"

Russell said Sigma Phi Mu's club week was primarily focused on welcoming in new members, although it also served to bring old members who did not go through a club week of their own closer together. The club does not currently have any major traditions for the week, but

Russell said the week was about laying a foundation for the club's future.

"More than anything, we're just trying to lay a good foundation," Russell said. "Next year, who knows, the things we do this week maybe aren't going to be tradition. But if we can know that our first club week was done well and that God was the center of it, then I think we will grow stronger and stronger and we will become a larger club."

## Unique Classes

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN: REGISTRATION IS COMING UP AND MEETINGS WITH ADVISORS ARE IN PROGRESS. IF YOUR ELECTIVES HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN UP WITH PREREQUISITES, OR YOU JUST FIND THAT YOU HAVE EXTRA BLOCKS OF TIME BETWEEN CLASSES, HERE ARE A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF SOME UNUSUAL CLASSES YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE CONSIDERED.

### Scuba Diving

A LITTLE LESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARKANSAN STEREOTYPE, ONE COURSE STANDS OUT AMONG THE REST—SCUBA DIVING. TAUGHT BY J.D. YINGLING. ACCORDING TO YINGLING, SCUBA DIVING IS OFFERED AS A SECOND EIGHT-WEEK COURSE DURING THE SPRING SEMESTER. WITH SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE AN OPEN WATER DIVER CERTIFICATION. "SCUBA DIVING IS A GREAT ACTIVITY THAT ONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN FOR THEIR ENTIRE LIFE," YINGLING SAID. "IT'S A GREAT WAY TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE A BEAUTIFUL PART OF GOD'S CREATION."

### Expressive Play Therapy

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE USE OF PLAY AS A TECHNIQUE TO HELP CHILDREN COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS IN LIFE. THIS CLASS INCLUDES ALL FORMS OF EXPRESSIVE PLAY TECHNIQUES SUCH AS MUSIC, ART, DANCE, DRAMA AND MORE. IF THIS DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE MOST FUN THREE CREDIT HOURS YOU WILL EVER EARN, I AM REALLY NOT SURE WHAT DOES.

### Personal Finance

LET'S FACE IT—OUR GENERATION IS COMMONLY KNOWN FOR OVERSPENDING ON PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING. PERSONAL FINANCE COULD BE A GODSEND FOR SHOP-A-HOLICS. PERSONAL FINANCE IS AN OVERVIEW OF MANAGING YOUR OWN FINANCES, AS WELL AS GOING OVER HOME OWNERSHIP, BANK ACCOUNTS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER TOPICS REGARDING ONE'S MONETARY DECISIONS IN THE FUTURE.

### Hymnology

HERE IS A CLASS YOU MIGHT NOT FIND AT MANY OTHER UNIVERSITIES. HYMNOLGY IS AN ENTIRE CLASS DEVOTED TO LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR SINGING IN THE CHURCH. MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH ARE SOMETIMES CAST IN THE STEREOTYPE OF BLINDLY FOLLOWING TRADITIONS. ATTENDING HARDING GIVES US THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION SOME OF OUR TRADITIONS AND LEARN ABOUT THEIR BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS.

### Human Nutrition

I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED THAT THIS CLASS DESCRIPTION MIGHT JUST SAY TO ME, "PUT THE ANIMAL CRACKERS DOWN, EVERYTHING YOU ARE DOING IS WRONG," BUT AM PLEASED TO TELL YOU THAT IT ACTUALLY SAYS IT IS DESIGNED TO INFORM STUDENTS ABOUT NORMAL NUTRITION AND METABOLISM, FOOD VALUES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE, GROWTH AND HEALTH OF HUMANS. THOUGH RAMEN NOODLES MIGHT BE YOUR GO-TO SURVIVAL FOOD OF CHOICE WHILE IN SCHOOL, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BENEFICIAL TO KNOW WHAT WILL KEEP YOU ALIVE PAST THE AGE OF 25.

### First Aid

IF YOUR MEDICAL EXPERIENCE IS THE EXTENT OF APPLYING A BAND-AID, THIS CLASS MIGHT BE FOR YOU. HARDING OFFERS A STANDARD RED CROSS FIRST AID COURSE, PROVIDING TWO CREDIT HOURS THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO LIVE OUT YOUR DREAMS OF BEING THE HERO WITH THE ABILITY TO FIX MORE THAN A COMMON BOO-BOO.

STORY BY BETHANY ASPEY GRAPHIC BY TYLER CARMICAL

## Harding student named chow down champ

by HOLLYBOHNETT  
student writer

Drake Pieper was deemed the Chow Down Champion when he ate 3.1 pounds of cheese dip in three minutes at the World Cheese Dip Championship in Little Rock on Saturday, Oct. 20. Pieper attended the festival expecting to taste different varieties of cheese dip but instead returned home with a trophy.

The main focus of the festival is for professional and amateur people to bring cheese dip samples for festival guests and a panel of judges decide on the winner. The eating contest is a side component of the main competition, but Pieper still considers himself a champion.

"This (eating) contest is just a little side event that

they decided to do," Pieper said. "They asked if anybody wanted to do it they could put their name in a box for a drawing. So I did it."

Pieper consumed over a pound more than the second place contestant, who ate about two pounds.

"The requirement was you could not use your hands or drink it from the bowl," Pieper said. "It's cheese dip so you have to use chips. So I went with the two chip method; I went for a little sturdiness and scooped big mouthfuls."

Pieper was given a large, silver trophy inscribed with "Chow Down Champion 2012." He was able to pose for pictures with his trophy alongside workers at the festival and was a spectacle for the several friends that cheered him on during the competition. His friend, junior

Kayla Sheehan, was one of the supportive spectators.

"Drake made us all proud," Sheehan said. "I hope the cheese dip festival becomes an annual tradition for our friend group."

The World Cheese Dip Championship has earned recognition as one of the best food festivals in America, making the "Top Ten Food Festival" lists on Gourmet.com and Roadfood.com. Thousands attended the festival Saturday, debuting their homemade cheese dip recipes and trying competitors' dips. The festival also takes place in Memphis, but is titled "Mid-South Cheese

Dip Classic."

Pieper is confident that he is not done with his competitive eating career and that his success at a small scale might propel him to a larger venue.

"I'm trying to take it easy

right now and not let it get to my head," Pieper said. "This is just my entrance into the competitive eating world. It's not the last they'll see of me, I'm sure. I'll go back to defend my title next year."

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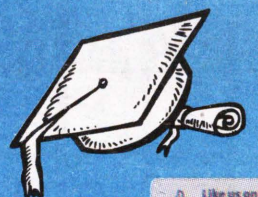
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As the days are becoming shorter, it is time to start looking for more inside activities to occupy our free time. What better way to do so than a movie? Fall 2012 is loaded with movies for every type of person and every mood, be it a horror movie like "Sinister" or the next chapter of spooks in "Paranormal Activity 4," or perhaps a lighter comedy such as Kevin James' new flick "Here Comes the Boom" or "Pitch Perfect." Maybe a thriller would more suit your style and you would enjoy "Taken 2" or "Argo." No matter your personal preference, a good movie is a great way to pass the time with friends and a fantastic new venue has just opened up in Little Rock.

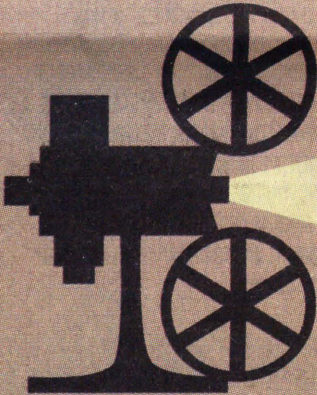
Regal Cinemas McCain Mall 12 & RPX has barely been open a month and offers all you could ever want in a movie theater. With 12 different screens there is a good chance you will be able to find the movie you want to see and at a time that is convenient for you and your friends. Prices for each movie completely depend on what time you want to watch it and how long the movie has been out, but most movies won't cost you more than \$10.

This theater's main highlights are its state of the art projection and sound systems, which really put you into the movie. The picture is crystal clear and the speakers will blow you away with their tremendous capabilities. Whether it is deafening blasts and explosions in an action movie or the slightest whisper in a drama, you will be hearing every last sound in the movie.

In addition to the fantastic presentation, the seats are top of the line as well. Along with being very comfortable, the aisles are roomy and offer lots of leg space, and rows in front of you are set low enough that you don't have any reason to worry about seeing 120 minutes of the back of somebody's head in stead of the movie you paid your hard-earned money to watch and enjoy.

If you get hungry during your movie there is a large snack bar with a variety of food, candy, popcorn and your favorite beverage of choice. All of the theaters are located very near to the concession area and there are many registers so you can grab your snacks and get back to your movie without much wait at all.

All in all, this is a very high quality movie theater. Though it's close to an hour's drive away, it provides a very nice escape from Searcy for an evening at an affordable price.



Story by Kyle Reeves, Graphic by Tyler Carmical

Album review

Taylor Swift's 'Red' offers strong vocals, explores new musical genres

by TRACY MARÉ
class writer

Taylor Swift's latest album, "Red," went to No. 1 on iTunes by the end of its first day in 32 different countries, as well as topping the all-genre top albums chart within the first 36 minutes of its release. Fans worldwide just cannot get enough of Swift's new songs.

While some may not like that "Red" contains more pop than country songs, Swift fans love it regardless of what genre each song may actually be.

Swift comes out swinging in this album with greatly improved vocals. Songs boast a much broader vocal range while also sounding more confident and mature. It is definitely refreshing to hear Swift finally being decisive and powerful in "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," unlike many of her others in which she comes across as whiny and desperate.

Red, like Swift's previous album, "Speak Now," contains a good mixture of both pop and country songs as well as having topics ranging from love, heartbreak and new romance, to fame and the free life.

The album opens with "State of Grace," a song that makes me want to hop in an old Jeep Wrangler, roll the windows down and cruise down an open road on a beautiful fall day. Even more youthful exuberance is expressed in Swift's other songs, "Starlight" and "22," which both just have that "young and wild and free" feeling attached to them.

True to form, Swift's album has its fair share

of love songs — about 70 percent of the album — which also ranges from country to pop and even a little bit of rock music.

While almost all of the songs found on "Red" fit Swift's typical country-pop mold, "I Knew You Were Trouble" took me by surprise with its rock-n-roll attitude disguised by great vocal variations and more relaxed music in between choruses.

"Sad Beautiful Tragic" and "I Almost Do" are reminders of Taylor's "Back To December" with similar tones and lots of emotion present throughout both songs. She offers "Red" as a way of looking back on a great love that no longer hurts, and "Holy Ground" as a memory of a fierce romance.

"Everything Has Changed" is a relaxing duet with singer/songwriter Ed Sheeran, exploring that feeling from when you have just met someone new and you do not know anything except that you want to know them.

Swift closes her album with "Begin Again," a song that leaves listeners and fans with the hope that no matter what has happened in the past, there will always be a time when something happens in their life that will allow them to watch their lives and hearts begin again, too.

As a whole, "Red" is sure to please already-crazed Taylor Swift fans as well as draw many more to her music as she branches out even more from standard country music, further improves her vocals and delivers yet again outstanding and heartfelt lyrics to listeners everywhere.

Restaurant review: ZaZa in Little Rock, Conway thrills customers with wood-fired pizza, fresh salad, homemade gelato

by JESS BOYD
web editor

Whether you are in the mood for pizza, salads or gelato, ZaZa will satisfy your taste buds. Chefs John Beachboard and Scott McGehee wanted to open a restaurant that served Napoli-style, wood-fired pizzas, fresh salads and homemade gelato at an affordable cost in a casual atmosphere.

They are committed to serving only the freshest ingredients and, whenever possible, buying their ingredients from local farmers who practice sustainable agriculture. According to their website,

the chefs at ZaZa are convinced the best-tasting food is grown and harvested in ways that are ecologically sound by locals who care for the land.

With 14 pizzas and 12 salads to choose from, deciding what to order may take some time. A great way to sample a variety of the menu is to go with a large group, order several pizzas and try a slice from each. If you are planning on ordering gelato for dessert, then a pizza will feed two.

Try the prosciutto-arugula pizza with cherry tomatoes, arugula, prosciutto, parmesan and San Marzano tomato sauce. If you are feeling adventurous, order a

fried egg on top. Adding a fried egg to your pizza may seem like a foreign idea, but the added flavor makes all the difference.

Another pizza worth tasting is the Italian sausage topped with house-made Italian sausage, garlic, caramelized onion, bell pepper, arugula, fontina, parmesan and San Marzano tomato sauce. The Italian sausage pizza more closely resembles what you may find on an American pizza; however, the fresh ingredients and wood-fired texture of the crust sets ZaZa's pizza apart from the competition.

If you want a healthier option, try one of ZaZa's fresh salads or

create your own. The Petit Jean Ranch, with romaine, spinach, ham, bacon, green bell pepper, red onion, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms and mozzarella, is always a crowd favorite. Feeling creative? Choose from a wide variety of vegetables, fruit, cheese, protein and salad dressings to create your favorite salad.

Save room for dessert. Gelato is prepared in house daily. The flavors vary from day to day and may include pistachio, raspberry, peanut butter cup, cookies and cream, lemon and vanilla. If you cannot decide on just one flavor, you can order a mixture. Raspberry and lemon is always

a refreshing combination. The Little Rock location opened in 2008 and is located at 5600 Kavanaugh Blvd. Because of the success of the Little Rock restaurant, Beachboard and McGehee decided to open another in The Village at Hendrix in Conway in Oct. 2010.

Menus are available online, but pizzas generally cost around \$12, salads around \$8 and gelato around \$4.

The next time you are in Little Rock to go shopping, see a movie or attend a concert, check out ZaZa for fresh salads, authentic wood-fired pizza and homemade gelato.

Table with 9 columns and 9 rows containing numbers for a crossword puzzle.

Check out on the Web

Online columnist: Jess Boyd talks reality TV.

A Bison staffer's recent experience at a Justin Bieber concert.

by KASEY COBLE

Multimedia: A look at the theatre students behind the junior one-act plays.

by AMY MARÉ & HANNAH ROBISON